3

VIZ TOP GRAPHIC NOVEL

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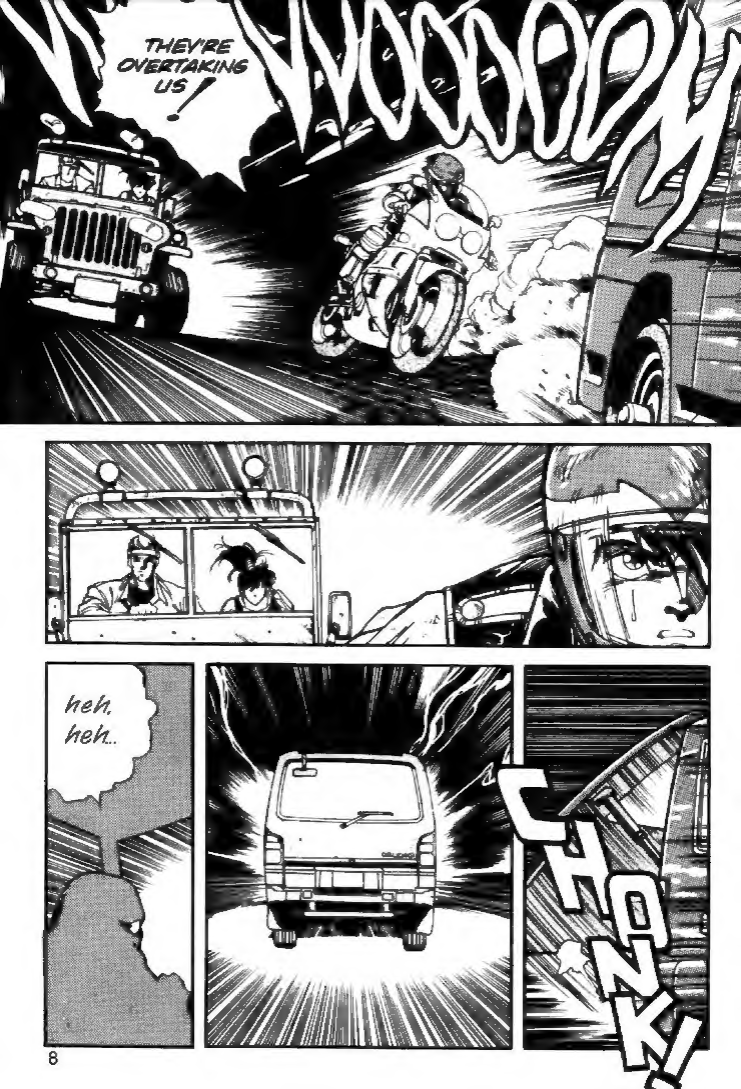
THANKS FOR WAITING.
RRRMM RRMM RRRMMM
RRRM RRMM
EVERY BIT OF INFO I COLLECTED ABOUT THE BLOODY SEA IS ON THAT ONE DISK. GUARD IT WITH YOUR LIFE!
I HOPE IT'LL BE USEFUL.
SHNEK!

NOW LET'S HEAD BACK!
GREAT!

SCENE 1
DEATH ON DISK I
YAMAHA
FZR

ZZZOOOM
ROUTE
D-DAMN! WE'RE BEING FOLLOWED!
ASUKA'S LOOKING BACK...
...AND NO WONDER! THE BLOODY SEA?!

Gah!
ho!
ho!
ho!
THUK
VOOOOM


THEY'RE OVERTAKING US!
VROOOOM
heh, heh...
HONK!

JING!

YAMAHA
SQUEE!
RRRRIPP
UNGH!
D-DAMN!
YA
RYUJI! / W-WATCH OUT! / THEY CAN SLASH YOU!
HEADS UP!
SQUEE!
WHAM

YAAAAA!
D-DAMN IT!
sha KLK
SQUEE!
POW!
WHUMP
TIME TO MAKE IT COUNT!
B-B-BUT YOU'RE A WOMAN!
IM A CYBORG, TOO!

GRR
RRR
VSH VSH VSH VSH VSH
ZING!
UHH!

GRRRRR
KRRRUNCH!
YOU GODDAMN HULKING THING!
TUNK
RHUSH!
STMP
KLOOM!
YEAH!

DONT UNDERESTIMATE ME, YOU BASTARD !
SHA!
NO! THERE WENT MY EARRING !
KRUNK

WHAT THE HELL?!
Gah! No! No!
THAT--THAT THING HAS MY EARRING!
HOOO-HAH!
KRNK

WH-
WH--
?!
KUNK

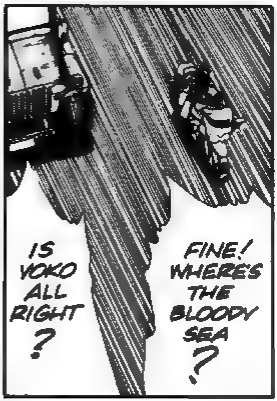
THIS MUST BE SOME SORT OF BAD DREAM.
...FIRST A MONSTER
...AND NOW..
YOKO ?!

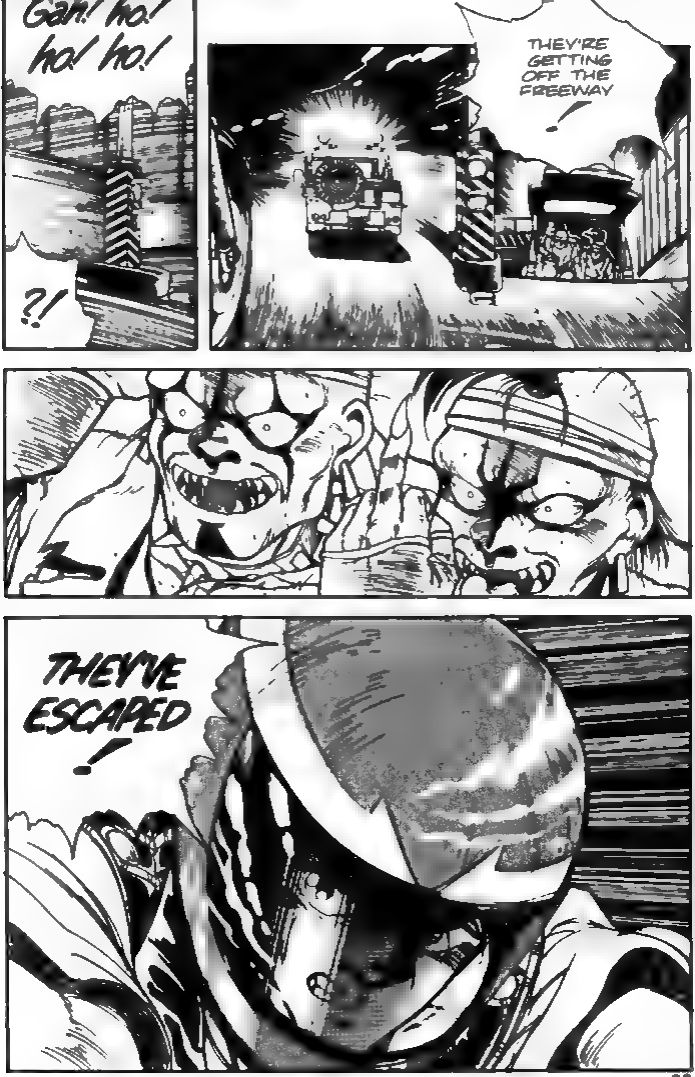
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT YOUR EARRING ?!
THERE'S A UNIQUE LANGUAGE MICROCHIP INSIDE IT!
WITHOUT THAT DECODER, THE DISK IS UNREADABLE!
GAH! NO! NO! NO! DOO!
I'VE GOT TO GET IT BACK!
ST-STOP, YOKO!

ABOVE YOU!
YOKO!
!!
GYAAAH!
EEEEE!
Gah! ha! ha! ha!
YOKO!

Noooo!
fwump

YOU F-FOOL!
I'M SORRY! I THOUGHT I COULD DO IT!


IS YOKO ALL RIGHT?
FINE! WHERE'S THE BLOODY SEA?


Gah! ho! ho! ho!
?!
THEY'RE GETTING OFF THE FREEWAY
THEY'VE ESCAPED!

WELL, YOU'RE ALL RIGHT NOW, YOKO.

YOU DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TO FIGHT!
WHY DID YOU PUSH YOURSELF SO HARD?
PUSH MYSELF? I'M A CYBORG JUST LIKE YOU!
JUST LIKE ME?!
LOOK DOWN! THOSE BREASTS ARE FLESH AND BLOOD!
B-BREASTS?
YOKO, YOU WERE RUNNING FIFTY MILES AN HOUR!
YOUR LEGS ARE UNSTABLE TO BEGIN WITH. WHEN YOU MOVE INTO HIGH GEAR SUDDENLY, YOUR JOINTS CAN'T TAKE THE STRAIN!
IF ASUKA HADN'T GRABBED YOU IN TIME, YOUR FACE WOULD BE SMEARED ALL ACROSS THAT HIGHWAY!

I ONLY WANT TO HELP
..WHY ARE YOU ALL AGAINST ME ?
WHY. ?
ONLY WE CYBORGS CAN FIGHT THOSE FREAKS ON EQUAL TERMS !
..TO HELP YOU AND TO HELP ME !
Y-YOU'RE A WOMAN ! YOU DON'T NEED TO FIGHT !
ISN'T THAT TRUE, ASUKA ?

HOMAN ?
HOW CAN YOU CALL ME THAT? I'M A CYBORG. NOT A HOMAN !
IDIOT !
SLAM!

"WOMAN." EVEN ASUKA DOESN'T UNDER STAND
WHO WOULD MARRY A FREAK LIKE ME?
WHO IS IT?
RSZ
RSZ
YOKO..
..YOU- YOU'RE YOKO MIZUNO!
R-RYOICHI?!

I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU, YOKO
rohhhh
shhh

BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS HERE ?

I SAW YOU AND YOUR RECKLESS FRIENDS OUT JOYRIDING, SO I FOLLOWED YOU.
WHO ARE THOSE GUYS ?
IT'S BEEN THREE YEARS..
..YOU SEEM TO HAVE CHANGED.
..WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN ALL THIS TIME ?
AND WHY ARE YOU RUNNING WITH SUCH TRASH ?
RYOICHI !
WELL, THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT NOW.
IT'S STILL NOT TOO LATE !
YOU'RE YOUNG-- I CAN MAKE YOU A SPRINTER AGAIN !

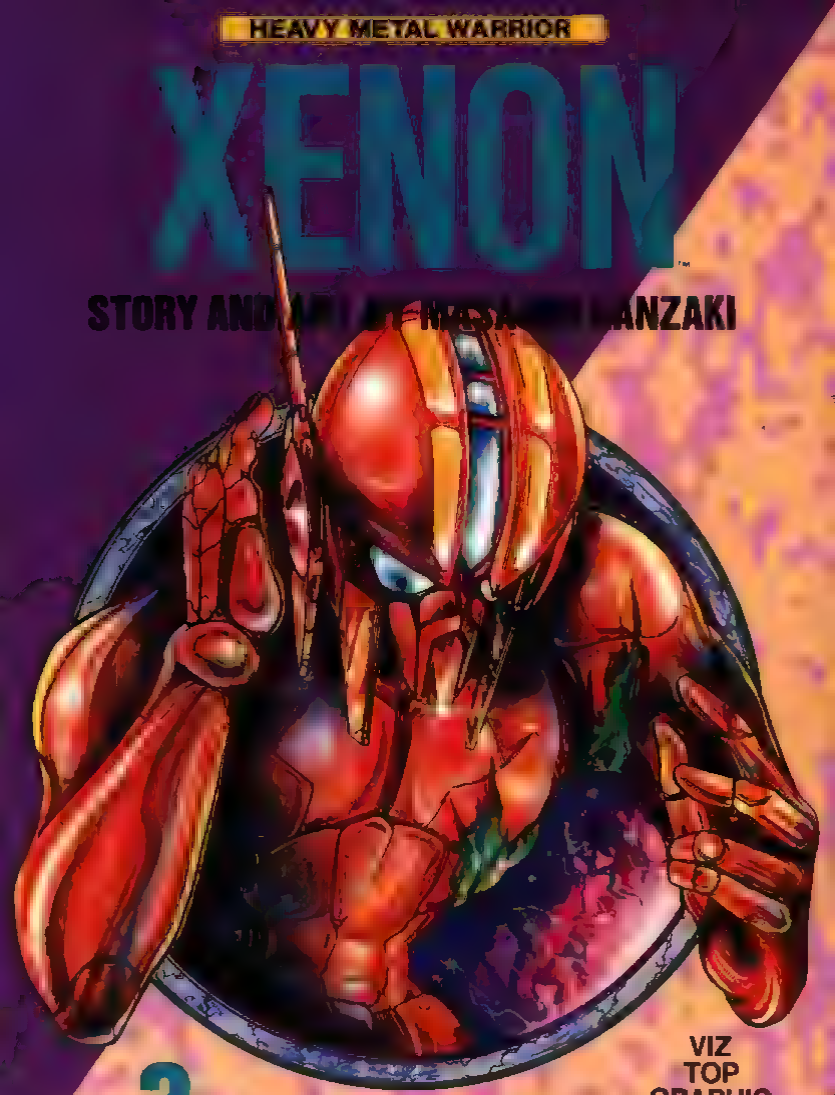
NO..
BUT WHY NOT ?
I JUST CAN'T !
TINK!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, YOKO ?
YOU! AREN'T YOU ONE OF THE CREEPS WHO PUT YOKO IN DANGER !?
ANSWER ME, PUNK !

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! DON'T YOU HAVE ANY MANNERS?
AH, I KNEW I'D SEEN YOUR FACE BEFORE..
..YOU'RE RYOICHI HIGASHI
YES, I GUESS YOU'VE CAUGHT ME IN ONE MAGAZINE OR ANOTHER
BUT WHAT IS THE WORLD MARATHON CHAMPION DOING HERE?
I'VE COME TO TAKE YOKO AWAY!
!?

HEAVY METAL WARRIOR

XENON

STORY AND [illegible] ANZAKI



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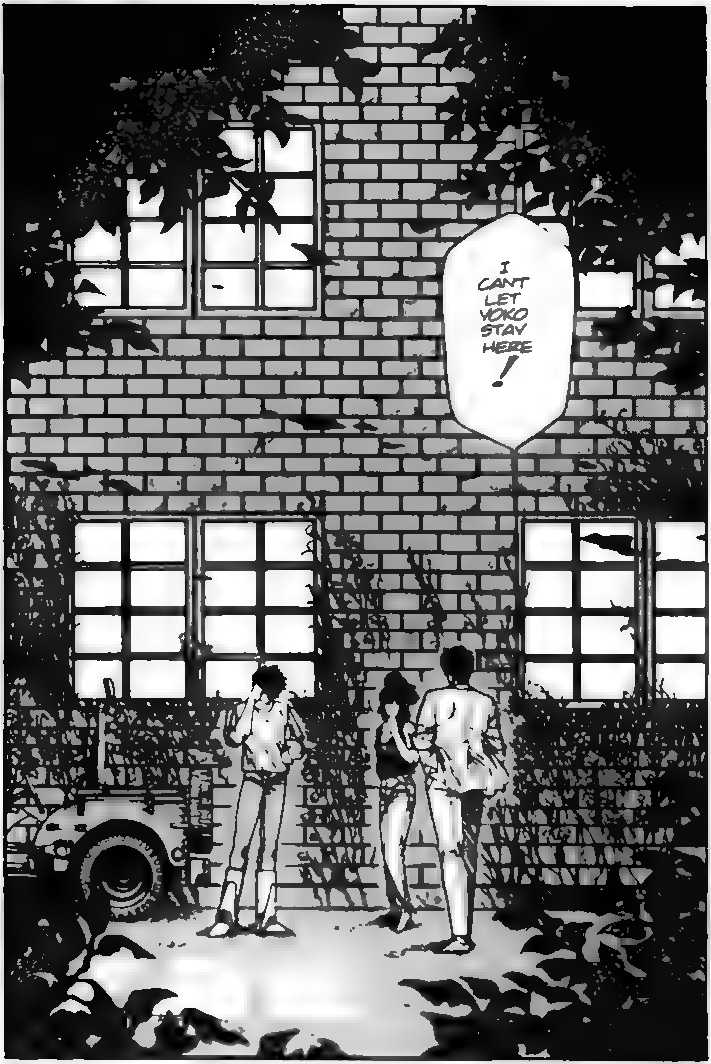
VIZ
TOP
GRAPHIC
NOVEL

SCENE 2

DEATH ON DISK II


I CAN'T LET YOKO STAY HERE!

HE WAS MY TEAMMATE-- MY COACH-- WHEN I WAS ON THE TRACK AND FIELD TEAM.
...HE MADE ME A SPRINTER
MEEOW
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU!
YOU WERE NEVER THE SORT OF GIRL WHO WOULD EVEN SPEAK TO A DEGENERATE LIKE THIS GUY!

CAN YOU IMAGINE HOW IVE FELT-- WAITING AND WORRYING FOR THREE YEARS?
YOKO, WHEN I HEARD THAT AFTER THE ACCIDENT YOU WOULDNT BE ABLE TO RUN--IT WAS LIKE STEALING MY OWN LIFE FROM ME!
OH, I DIDNT MOURN THE LOSS OF YOUR WORLD RECORDS, YOUR FAME..
YOU WERE JUST SO BEAUTIFUL WHEN YOU WERE RUNNING.
THAT WAS THE YOKO I LOVED.

BUT THEN YOU DISAPPEARED
.....
SINCE THAT DAY, I'VE DONE NOTHING BUT ACCUMULATE WEALTH AND FAME.
ALWAYS HOPING THAT WE COULD GET YOU BACK IN CONDITION..
hhaah
hhaah
hhaah
...AND NOW WE'RE READY!

YOKO, IF YOU'RE WILLING I CAN PREPARE STAFF AND EQUIPMENT FOR YOU AT ANY TIME!
MREOW!
COME BACK TO ME. AGAIN.
...LET ME SEE THAT BEAUTIFUL GIRL AGAIN!

STOP!
PLEASE! STOP TALKING LIKE THAT!
IT'S TOO LATE, RYOICHI!
EVERYTHING HAS CHANGED! EVERYTHING!
THE WORLD AND.. AND I'VE CHANGED TOO!

I WANT TO RUN..
..MORE THAN ANYTHING..
...BUT--
THAT'S ENOUGH!
?!
..uh. um
..I-I'M SORRY
THAT'S ALL RIGHT, ASUKA YOU DON'T HAVE TO APOLOGIZE..

MR HIGASHI
WHY DON'T YOU GO HOME TONIGHT ?
WE'VE HAD ENOUGH FOR ONE EVENING
RSSS
RSSS
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU !
?
YOU'VE BEEN FOLLOWED

NOW YOU'LL SEE THAT YOU'RE WRONG!
SSSL
I'LL SHOW YOU HOW "DEGENERATE" I AM!
SSSL
AND
..HOW DIFFERENT OUR WORLD IS FROM YOURS!
KA-TOOM
KA-TOOM
!
BRRR

WAAAAHHH!
D-DAMN!
BAM!
YOKO! T-TAKE HIM INSIDE!
OKAY!
SQUEE!
HMMM!
SQUEEZING!

THOK!
GGET OFF MY BACK!
A M-MONKEY?!
WHAT ARE THOSE THINGS?
DON'T WORRY! JUST RUN!
HURK

SLLUU
MY EARRING!
SLLUD
gugh!
HOOOHAH!
ALL RIGHT, YOU THING!
NAAAAHH!

YO!
SORRY I'M LATE, GUYS!
SAME WEIRD CRITTERS?
YEAH!
DON'T KNOW!
WHO'S SCREAMING?
EEEEH!

HE'S WEARING MY EARRING!
PLEASE, HELP ME!
HERE WE GO!

THOK
HO!
HO!
EEEEH!

EEEARRING!
kletch
FWUMP
RYUU!!
THOMP
WOOOOOH!

SLASH!
SLRUNCH

SWOOSH
?!
WHOMP
AHOO!
AWOO!
SOMEONE
SOMEONE!
KRAKK
KRAKK!

SOUWA!
SAVE!
YOKO, YOUR LEG... WHAT HAPPENED?

OH!

YOU TWO ARE DIFFERENT! WHAT ARE YOU?

SCENE 3

DEATH ON DISK III

YOKO, ARE-- ARE YOU AWAKE ?
tak tak
YOU CAN'T LET IT HURT YOU SO MUCH.
C-LOFT

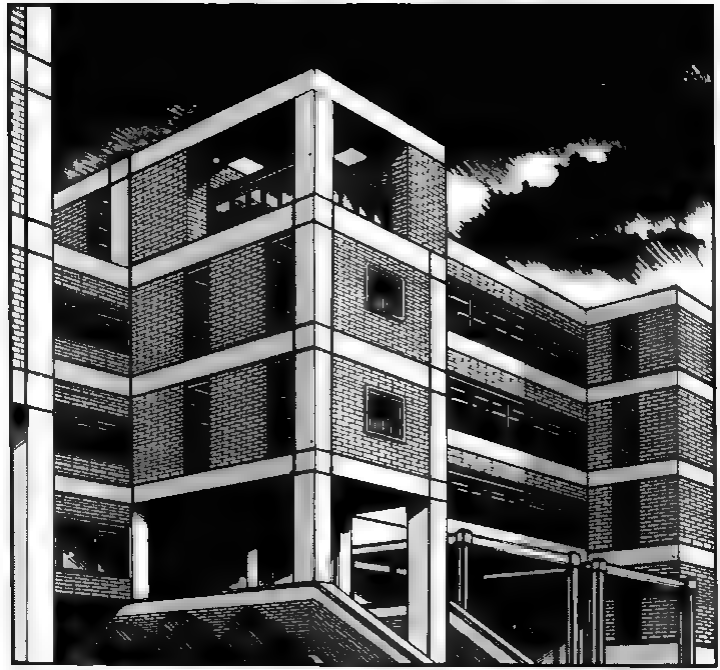
PLEASE. LEAVE ME ALONE FOR A WHILE.
PLEASE ?
C-LOFT
YOU TWO ARE DIFFERENT ! - WHAT ARE YOU ?

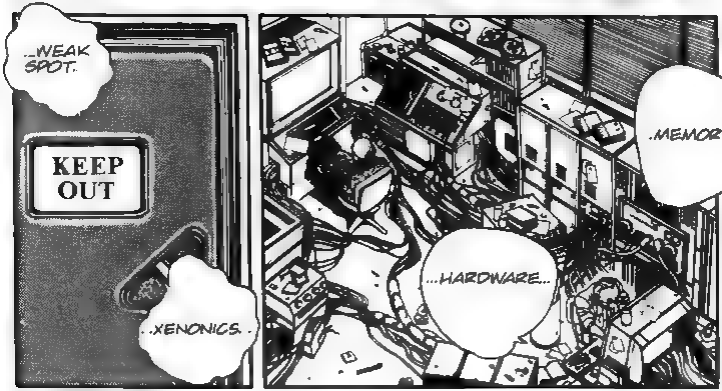
WHAT ARE YOU REALLY ?!
AND WHAT ARE THOSE MONSTERS THAT FOLLOW YOU ?!
WHY CAN'T I UNDER-STAND ?
RYOICHI, IT'S NOT THAT YOU CAN'T UNDERSTAND, IS IT?
IF YOU'D EVER SUFFERED, YOU COULD UNDER-STAND !
BUT LIFE HAS BEEN TOO EASY FOR YOU! YOU DON'T WANT TO UNDERSTAND US !
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?! HOW CAN I UNDERSTAND YOU-- WITH YOUR WEIRD ROBOT ARMS ?

AND YOKO'S LEG!
IT'S JUST LIKE YOUR ARM!
ALL OF YOU..
...YOU'RE JUST LIKE THE MONSTERS!
!

!
YOKO!
BASTARD!
FWOOP
WHAT?!
IS THAT HOW YOU SPEAK TO THE WOMAN YOU LOVE!?
HM.
HM.
DAMN!

THUDD
GET-- GET OUT OF HERE!
wash!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, ASUKA, BUT DON'T WORRY
NO, I'M FINE. BUT YOKO. YOKO IS..
...YOKO IS A WOMAN!
LOFT




..WEAK SPOT..
KEEP OUT
..XENONICS..
..MEMORY..
...HARDWARE...

EXPERIMENT 777 OF PROJECT X PRODUCED THE HEAVY METAL WARRIOR XENON.
ITS STRENGTH RANGES FROM ONE TO THREE HUNDRED TIMES THAT OF A NORMAL MAN, AND ITS HIGH SPEED, AIDED BY BOOSTERS ALL OVER THE ARMOUR, MAKE XENON TERRIBLY EFFECTIVE IN CLOSE COMBAT
OF THE EIGHTEEN UNITS PROJECT X PRODUCED SO FAR, ONLY X-777, XENON, IS STILL FUNCTIONAL
..BOOSTER...
..hrumm.
...NONE OF THIS IS OF ANY USE! WHERE IS THE WEAK POINT?!
WHERE !?

heh
SIMPLE. THE FACE. IT LACKS XENONIC ARMOUR.
BUT SOMEONE HAS FASHIONED A HELMET TO PROTECT THAT AS WELL.
IT MUST HAVE ANOTHER WEAKNESS!
HELMET... K30... hmm..
I'M AFRAID THAT XENONICS K30 CAN WITHSTAND MISSILE ATTACKS AND EVEN ANTI-TANK SHELLS..
...THAT ARMOUR IS IDEAL, INDEED!
BUT IT STILL HAS A WEAKNESS!!
YES...?
SONY
SDDM
THIS IS THE VIDEO TAPE OF XENON WE TOOK DURING THE BLOODY SEA'S EARLY EXPERIMENTS.
THE XENON SYSTEM IS FORCED INTO ACTION BY A STRONG ELECTRIC CURRENT

IT'S STARTING..
..ALONG WITH THE HARDENING PROCESS OF THE K30 "SKIN," ARTIFICIAL MUSCLES ALL OVER THE SUBJECT EXPAND FOR A POWER INCREASE.
AS THE SKIN HARDENS, THE BODY SWELLS, BEGINNING FROM THE SEAMS WHICH RUN ALONG THE SUBJECT'S BODY REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT THE SYSTEM IS ACTIVATED. XENON LITERALLY BECOMES LARGER THAN LIFE!
RIGHT HERE!

IN XENON'S BODY, THE THINNEST ARMOUR IS THAT WHICH COATS THE JOINTS OR SEAMS BETWEEN MUSCLE PLATES.
MOREOVER, XENONICS K90 IS MOST UNSTABLE AT THE INSTANT IT BEGINS TO HARDEN!
heh.. heh. heh..
heh. heh.. heh.
heh. heh. heh..
tik tik tik tik
WE'VE AS GOOD AS WON, TONO!
RED BEARD! BLUE BEARD! THIS TIME, I WANT YOU TO GIVE HIM EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT!

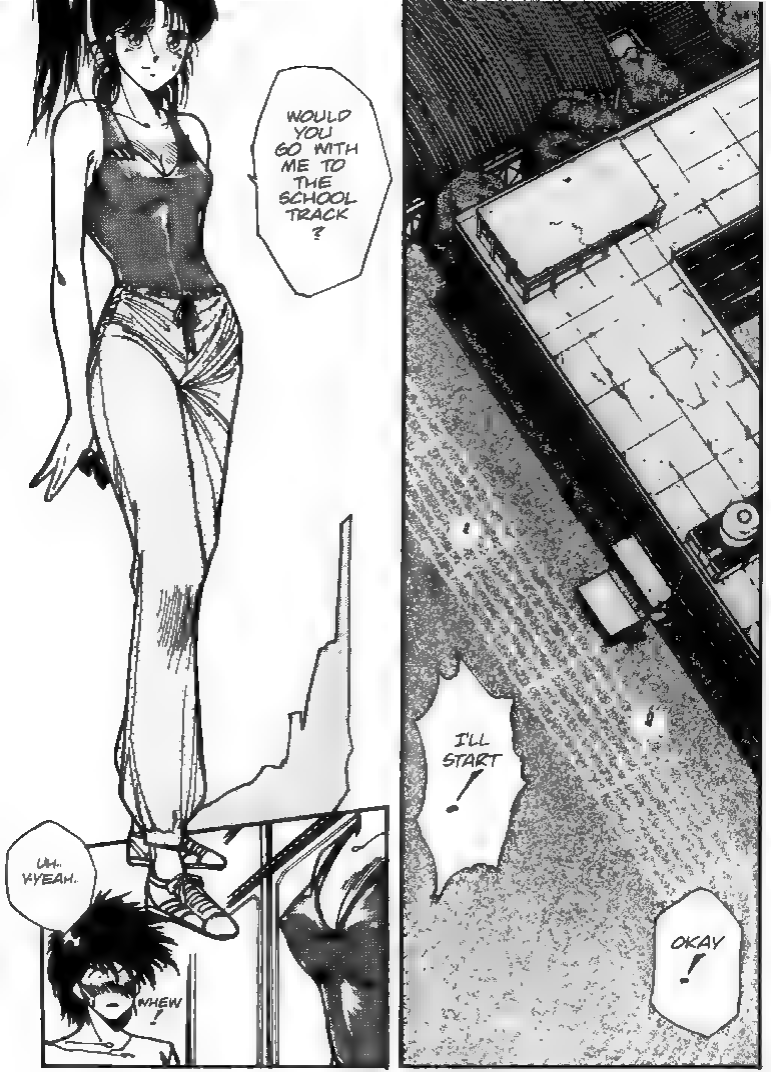
Geh
Ho
Ho.
Ho
Ho
MY FAITHFUL SOLDIERS, SLAVES TO MY PROGRAMMING...
GO NOW! DESTROY XENON!
SQUEE!
SQUEE!

SO--IT WAS BECAUSE OF YOUR INPUT THAT THEY ACTED WITHOUT MY ORDERS !
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! WHY SHOULDN'T I HAVE HAD XENON FOLLOWED? WE NEED TO KNOW HIS LOCATION !
WASN'T IT A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO DESTROY ALL OF THEM IN A SINGLE STROKE ?
IT WAS UNNECESSARY !
WHAT?!
INPUT ONLY AT MY COMMAND-- IS THAT UNDERSTOOD ?!
DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE MY INCREDIBLE TALENT ?
DON'T YOU WISH ME TO RETURN TO MY JOB AT THE BLOODY SEA ?

YOU'RE SPOUTING NONSENSE!
YOUR JUNKIES CAN'T EVEN DISTINGUISH THE ENEMY UNLESS YOU INPUT THE INFORMATION.. YOUR "TALENT" PROVIDES MURDERERS WHO ARE USELESS UNLESS I MAKE THEM INTO CYBORGS!
THE BLOODY SEA NEEDS MERCHANDISE-- WEAPONS OF WAR THAT WE CAN SELL FOR A PROFIT!
YOU, ICHIMURA, ARE FORTUNATE THAT I FIND ANY USE AT ALL FOR YOUR SO-CALLED TALENTS!
Heh, heh, heh, heh...
.. SO, AS I THOUGHT, THE RUMOURS I'VE HEARD ARE TRUE...
..YOU ARE A TRAITOR TO THE BLOODY SEA!!

DON'T THINK I WON'T REPORT THIS!
THE TOP BRASS WILL HEAR! THE VERY TOP! YOU'LL BE FIRED! YOU'LL SEE! AND I'LL RETURN TO THE BLOODY SEA--
SHEKT
--I'M GOING BACK!
STUPID SCIENTIST-
AAAGH!
SKOD

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS! NEXT TIME YOU'LL BE DEAD!
uff. uff uff
W-WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU..?
OH! ASUKA!


WOULD YOU GO WITH ME TO THE SCHOOL TRACK?
UH. YYEAH.
WHEW!
I'LL START!
OKAY!

OH
!

WHOOSH!
KLIK
FIVE SECONDS FLAT
.....
LOET
SEVENTY-FIVE MILES AN HOUR. THAT'S THE KIND OF LEGS I HAVE NOW...
...BUT I DON'T THINK MY HEART HAS CHANGED.
RYOICHI KNOWS-- I'VE NEVER CARED ABOUT THE RECORDS...
...I JUST LIKE TO RUN... TO SEE THE WORLD FLOWING BY I LIKE TO GIVE MYSELF TO THE WIND.

IT WAS RYOICHI WHO CHANGED ASUKA.
I LOVED HIM WHEN I WAS A STUDENT
WE RAN TOGETHER A LOT. I THOUGHT HE FELT THE SAME WAY I DID.
BUT I CAN'T LOVE HIM ANYMORE..
STATUS, FAME, MONEY.. THOSE ARE THE REASONS HE RUNS NOW. IT'S EVEN HARDER TO FORGIVE HIM WHEN HE GAVE IT'S ALL FOR ME.
YOKO...
...I-I'M SURE YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED..WHEN I WATCHED YOU RUNNING, I-I FELT SOMETHING
ASUKA, PLEASE DON'T EXCLUDE ME FROM YOUR PLANS JUST BECAUSE I'M A WOMAN!

AS I THOUGHT... YOU--YOU MISUNDERSTOOD ME..
.. I ONLY SAID THAT BECAUSE YOU WERE TOO EAGER..
--TOO EAGER TO BE JUST LIKE A MAN.
YOKO, E-EVEN IF THIS WORLD ENDS, OR YOUR BODY BECOMES A MACHINE...
.YOU YOU'RE A WOMAN AND I'M A MAN!
YOU CAN'T CHANGE THAT!
AS LONG AS YOU DON'T FORGET THAT, I'LL--I'LL NEVER EXCLUDE YOU..
..OKAY, ASUKA...

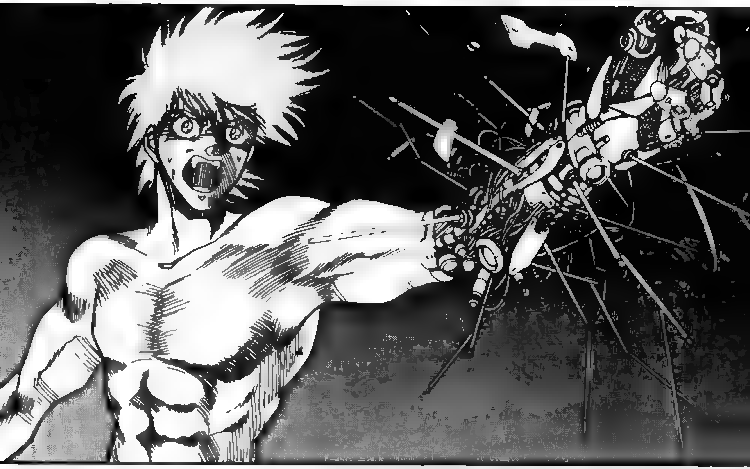
SCENE 4
DEATH ON DISK IV

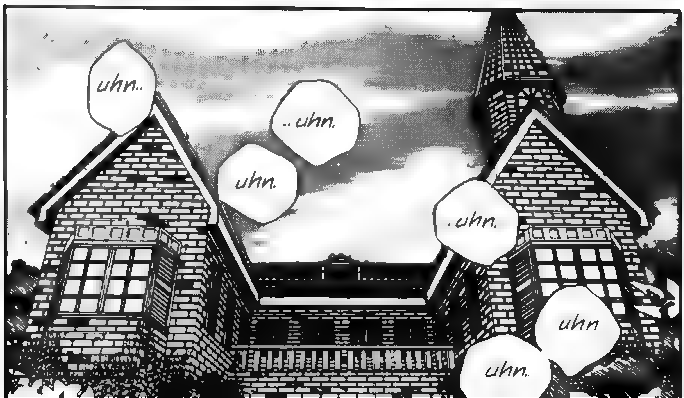
MOM!
ASUKA!
urn
urn
urn
urn
uhn
urn
uhn
uhn..
...uhn..

YOU WILL BE HAPPY, ASUKA!
uhn
uhn
SSSS
uhn
uhn
uhn...
uhn
uhn.
uhn..
uhn..
uhn...
YOU ARE JUST LIKE ME!

...NO..
...THAT'S NOT TRUE!
ASUKA!
!!
NO! SONOKO!

DON'T SHOW YOUR BODY TO THE ONE YOU LOVE!




uhn.
..uhn.
uhn.
.uhn.
uhn
uhn.

WHA-!?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, ASUKA?
W-WHAT...?
Y-YOKO...?
IT'S ALL RIGHT NOW. YOU MUST HAVE HAD A BAD DREAM, THAT'S ALL
A N-NIGHTMARE... TERRIBLE...
YOU SHOULDN'T SLEEP ALONE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.

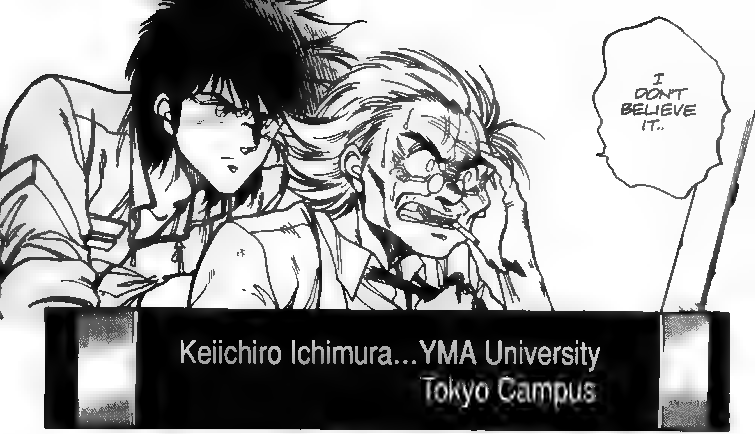
W-WHATEVER YOU SAY, YOKO...
...UH.. I M-MEAN... TH-THAT IS..
I'LL KEEP YOU COMPANY.
DDON'T!
STOP!
SA
LAM
DAMN.

SOME HEADWAY, AT LAST..
...YOKO'S CODE IS GOOD..
. AND THE DATA'S EVEN BETTER !

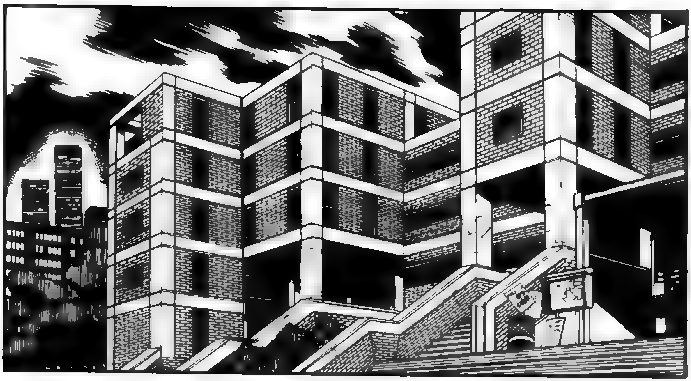
A WEEK
GRAMPS! YOU DIDN'T STAY UP ALL NIGHT, DID YOU? AT-AT YOUR AGE!
hmph! YOU YOUNG FOLKS ARE WEAK! WHAT'S ONE NIGHT'S SLEEP?
HERE!
NO SATISFACTION GUARANTEE ON THIS STUFF!
BEEP
BEEP
IS THIS THE INFORMATION YOKO GATHERED?
YES! THIS DISK CONTAINS THE NAMES OF EVERY PERSON AND CORPORATION WITH TIES TO THE BLOODY SEA!

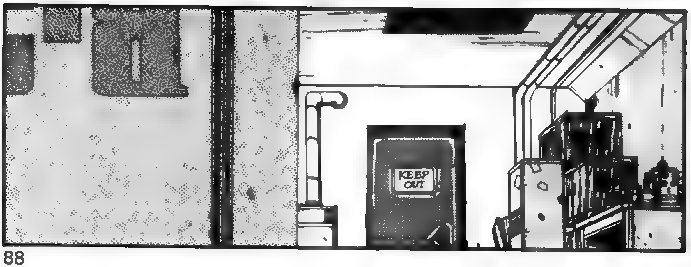
I'M USING A DATABASE TO CROSS-REFERENCE ALL THE INFORMATION! SOON WE'LL KNOW ITS EXACT LOCATION!
IT'S TIME TO TAKE THE OFFENSIVE!
YOU MUST BE READY!
YEAH...

RRRRRR
RGOM43
SO, COULD I ASK YOU ONE THING?
COULD YOU-- UM--MAKE HELMETS FOR YOKO AND RYUJI? HELMETS LIKE MINE?
I WONDERED WHEN YOU WOULD ASK! I'VE BEEN WORKING ON THEM FOR WEEKS NOW!
RRRRRR
YOU'RE NOT TOO BAD, GRAMPS!
WHAT?!
W-WHAT HAPPENED? IS S-SOMETHING WRONG?

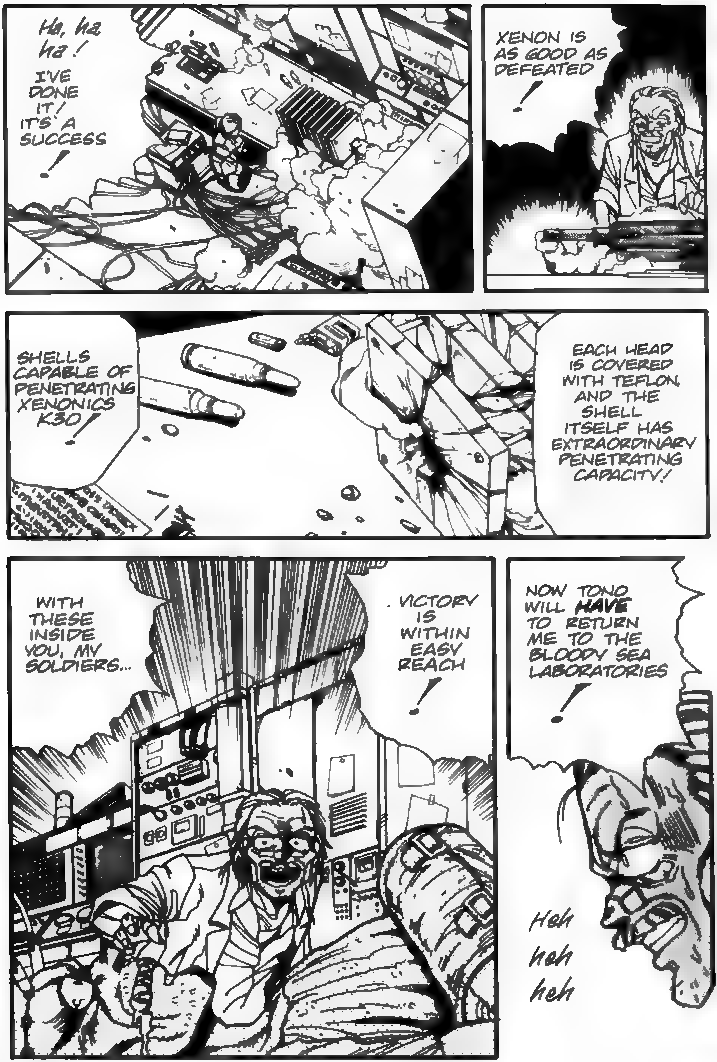


Keiichiro Ichimura...YMA University
Tokyo Campus





KEEP OUT
CHOOM
SKRNNN
CRSH
TRSH
Heh.. heh, heh..
heh, heh, heh..


Ha, ha, ha!
I'VE DONE IT/ IT'S A SUCCESS!
XENON IS AS GOOD AS DEFEATED!
SHELLS CAPABLE OF PENETRATING XENONICS K30!
EACH HEAD IS COVERED WITH TEFLON AND THE SHELL ITSELF HAS EXTRAORDINARY PENETRATING CAPACITY!
WITH THESE INSIDE YOU, MY SOLDIERS...
VICTORY IS WITHIN EASY REACH!
NOW TONO WILL HAVE TO RETURN ME TO THE BLOODY SEA LABORATORIES!
Heh heh heh

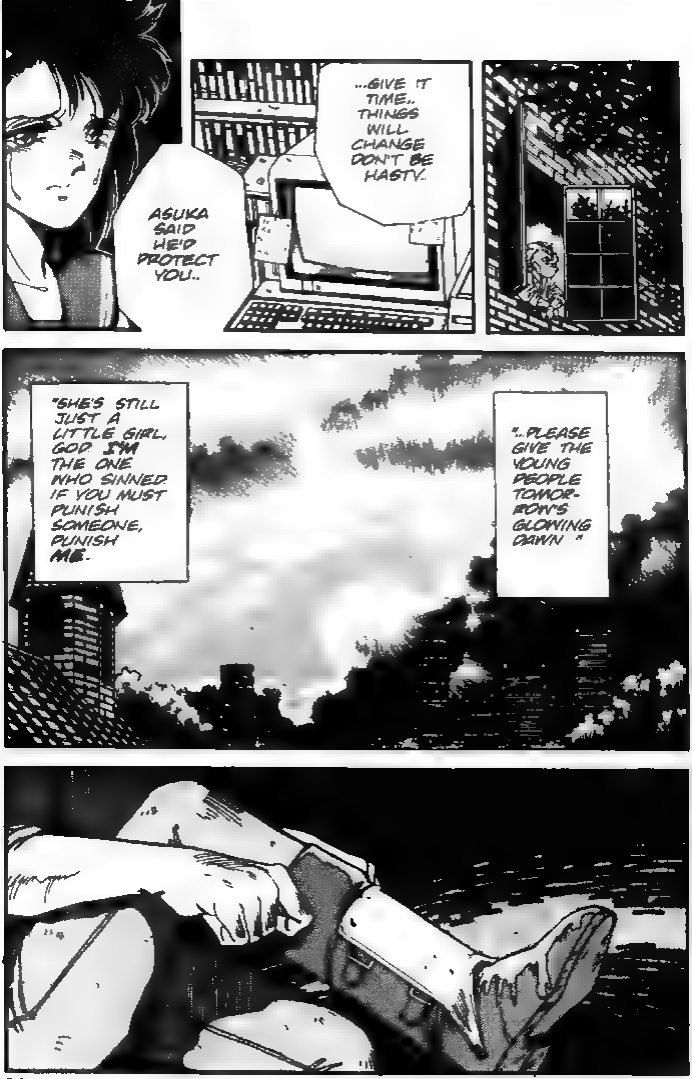
ASUKA, THEY'RE LATE...
TK
TK
12
TK
DONT WORRY, YOKO. THEY'LL BE HERE SOON
HMMPH
HEY! IS ANYBODY HERE ?!

TUMPA TUMPA TUMPA
WHUMP!
UH. HH!
UHH
I'M SORRY IF I MADE YOU WORRY ABOUT ME.. I'M OKAY NOW

I-I'M GLAD, SONOKO. REAL GLAD. Um, SONOKO..?
YES, ASUKA...?
LET'S GET A MOVE ON!
YEEEEEEEEK!
WHOP
SKREEK
SLEEP SLEEP
Hee, hee, hee, hee, hee!

GRANDPA..?
...GRANDPA, IT'S ME- SONOKO.
I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU'VE RECOV-ERED
I'M SORRY I MADE YOU WORRY..
...I TRIED TO STAY AWAY. I DON'T WANT TO CAUSE YOU TROUBLE, REALLY I DON'T...
..BUT I JUST HAVE TO KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT ASUKA..

YOU WANT TO KNOW THE TRUTH-- NO MATTER WHAT IT IS?
EVEN IF THAT KNOWLEDGE WILL SEPARATE YOU FROM ASUKA--
--SEPARATE THE TWO OF YOU FOREVER ?
OH, SONOKO..
IT'S NOT IN GOOD TASTE TO EAVESDROP, RISA...
Urgh! CAUGHT BY THE BIG ONE!

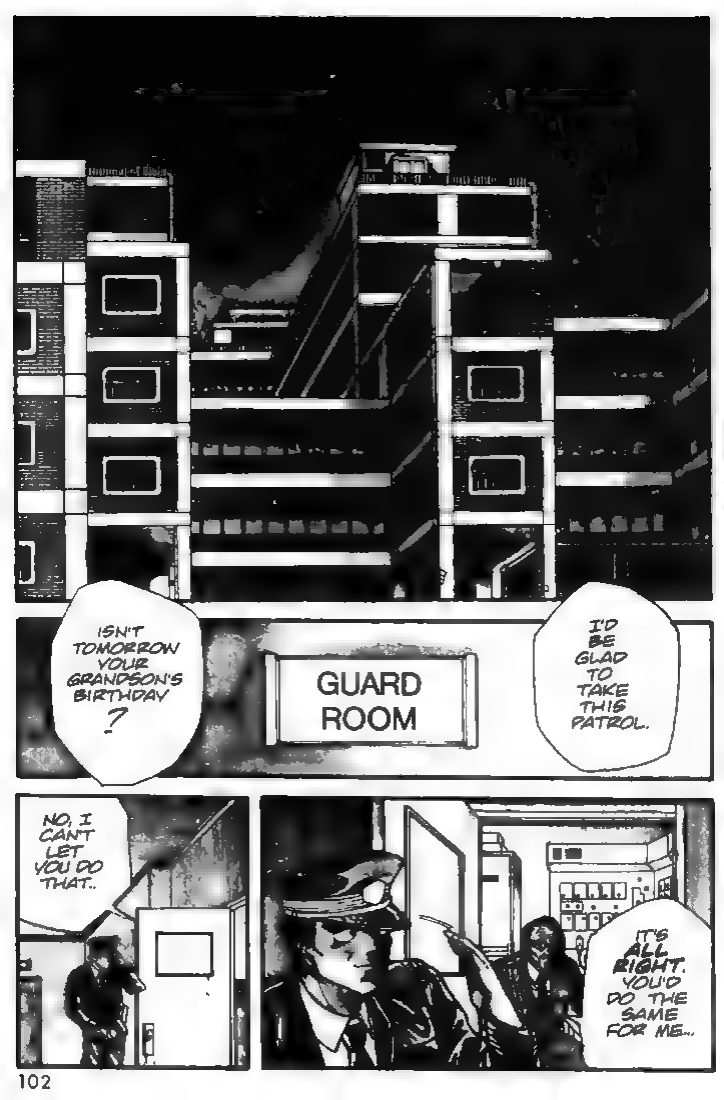

ASUKA SAID HE'D PROTECT YOU..
...GIVE IT TIME.. THINGS WILL CHANGE DON'T BE HASTY.
"SHE'S STILL JUST A LITTLE GIRL. GOD I'M THE ONE WHO SINNED IF YOU MUST PUNISH SOMEONE, PUNISH ME.
"..PLEASE GIVE THE YOUNG PEOPLE TOMOR-ROW'S GLOWING DAWN "

WE MUST MOVE FROM DEFENSE TO OFFENSE.
WHAT HAPPENED ASUKA? WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I'M JUST GOING OUT FOR A WALK.
SEE YOU LATER ON..?
OF COURSE BE CAREFUL..
SQUEE
SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED BETWEEN THEM WHILE I WAS GONE!
#$%&@!

WAIT... ASUKA--
SA-LAAAA
whhhh
shhhh

SCENE 5

DEATH ON DISK V

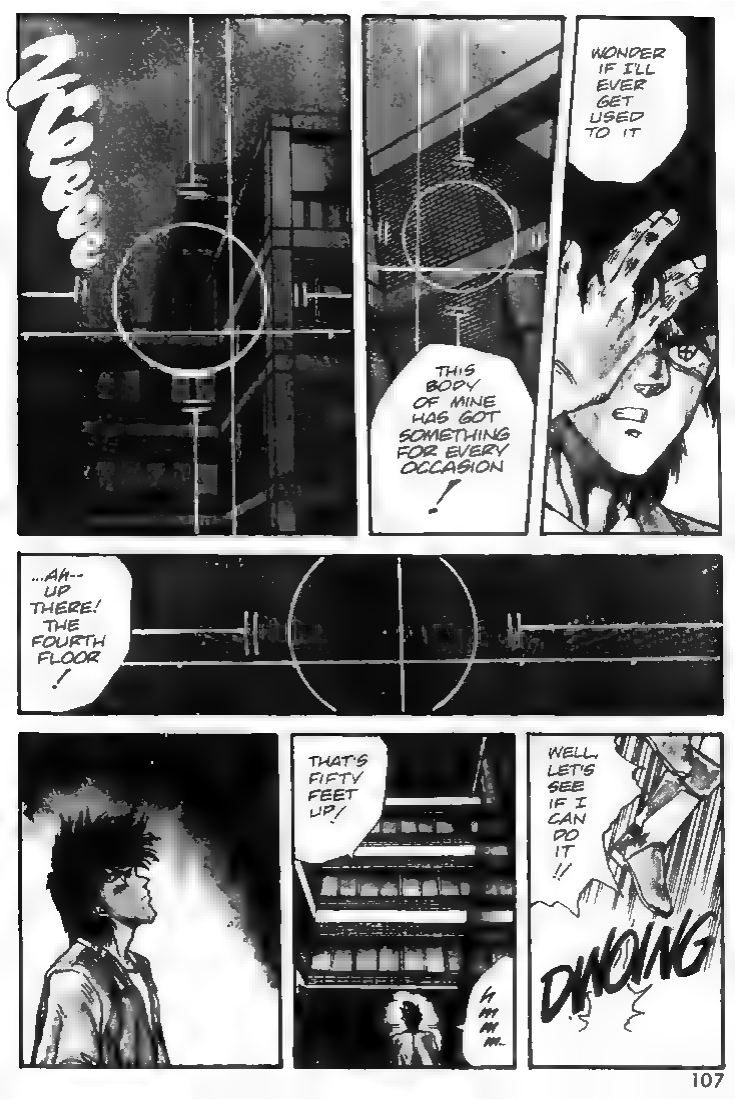

ISN'T TOMORROW YOUR GRANDSON'S BIRTHDAY ?
GUARD ROOM
I'D BE GLAD TO TAKE THIS PATROL.
NO, I CANT LET YOU DO THAT..
IT'S ALL RIGHT. YOU'D DO THE SAME FOR ME..

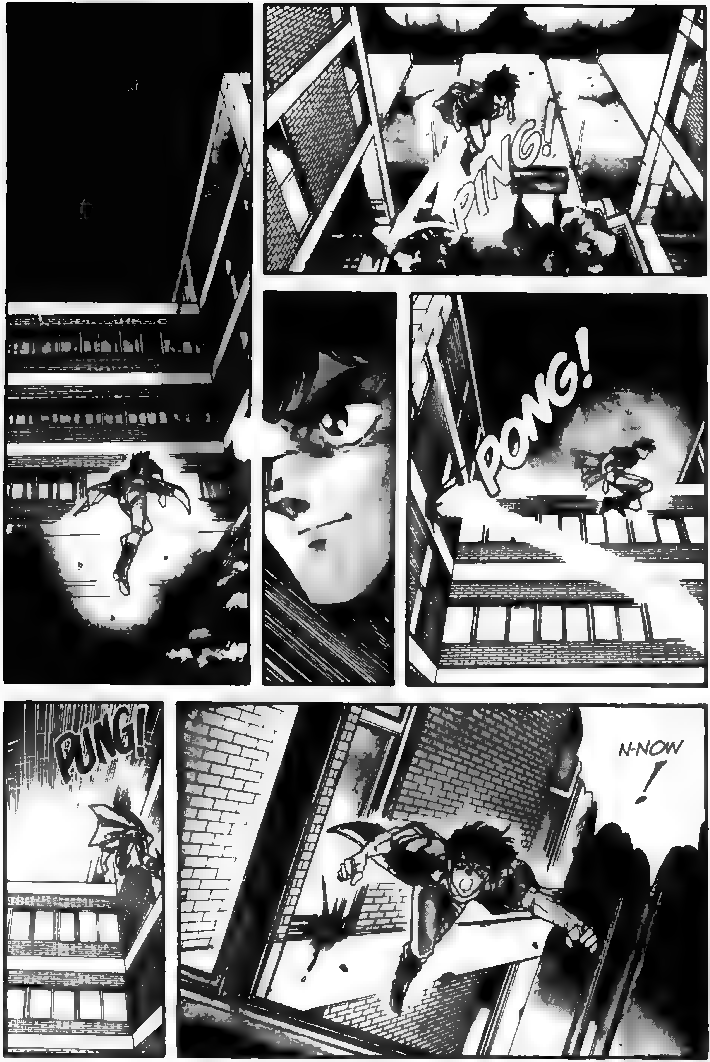
SLAM
YEAH. I GUESS IT'S OKAY, THEN
CLIK
CLIK
CLIK
CLIK
CLIK
HMMM
KUNK
DOWNSTAIRS!
Whaah
Whaah
?
B-3

hhaah hhaah
KEEP OUT
hhaah hhaah
KEEP OUT
THAT NOISE. FROM THIS ROOM
SHAAA
WHOOSH
?!
KEEP OUT
THOOMP

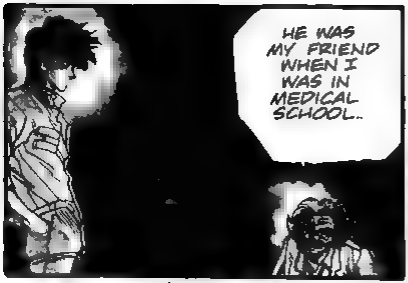
KEEP OUT
GYAAAH!
WHA-?!

Gah!
Ho!
Ho!
Ho!
SCRUB
NOW, HOW DO I SNEAK INTO THIS PLACE...?

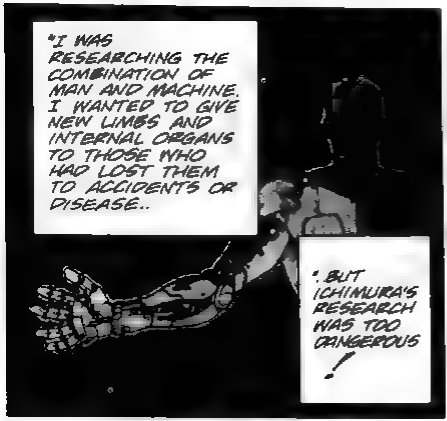

ZZZZZ
WONDER IF I'LL EVER GET USED TO IT
THIS BODY OF MINE HAS GOT SOMETHING FOR EVERY OCCASION!
...AH-- UP THERE! THE FOURTH FLOOR!
THAT'S FIFTY FEET UP!
HMMM.
WELL, LET'S SEE IF I CAN DO IT!!
DWOING

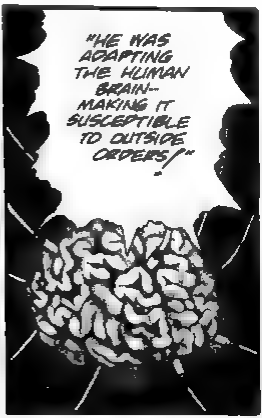

PING!
PONG!
PUNG!
N-NOW!

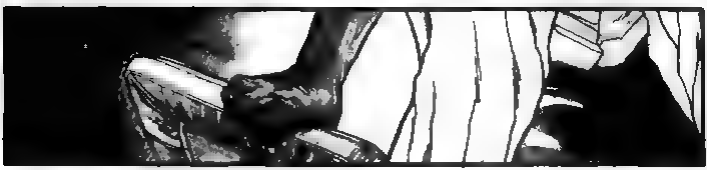
SWOOSH!!
M-MADE IT!
BEING A FREAK DOES HAVE ITS ADVANTAGES!
GRAMPS.. THIS-THIS BASTARD ICHIMURA ON YOKO'S DISK! DO YOU KNOW HIM?
YEAH... I KNOW HIM WELL


HE WAS MY FRIEND WHEN I WAS IN MEDICAL SCHOOL..

...NO, NOT MY FRIEND-- RATHER, MY RIVAL.

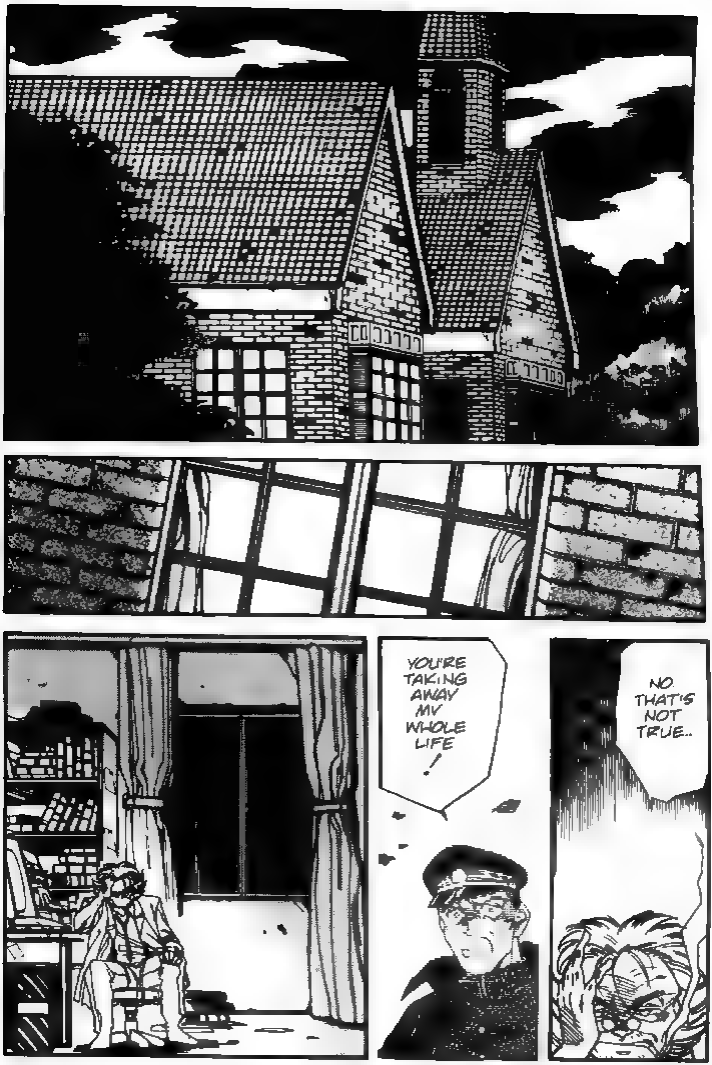

"I WAS RESEARCHING THE COMBINATION OF MAN AND MACHINE. I WANTED TO GIVE NEW LIMBS AND INTERNAL ORGANS TO THOSE WHO HAD LOST THEM TO ACCIDENTS OR DISEASE..
"BUT ICHIMURA'S RESEARCH WAS TOO DANGEROUS!


"HE WAS ADAPTING THE HUMAN BRAIN-- MAKING IT SUSCEPTIBLE TO OUTSIDE ORDERS!"



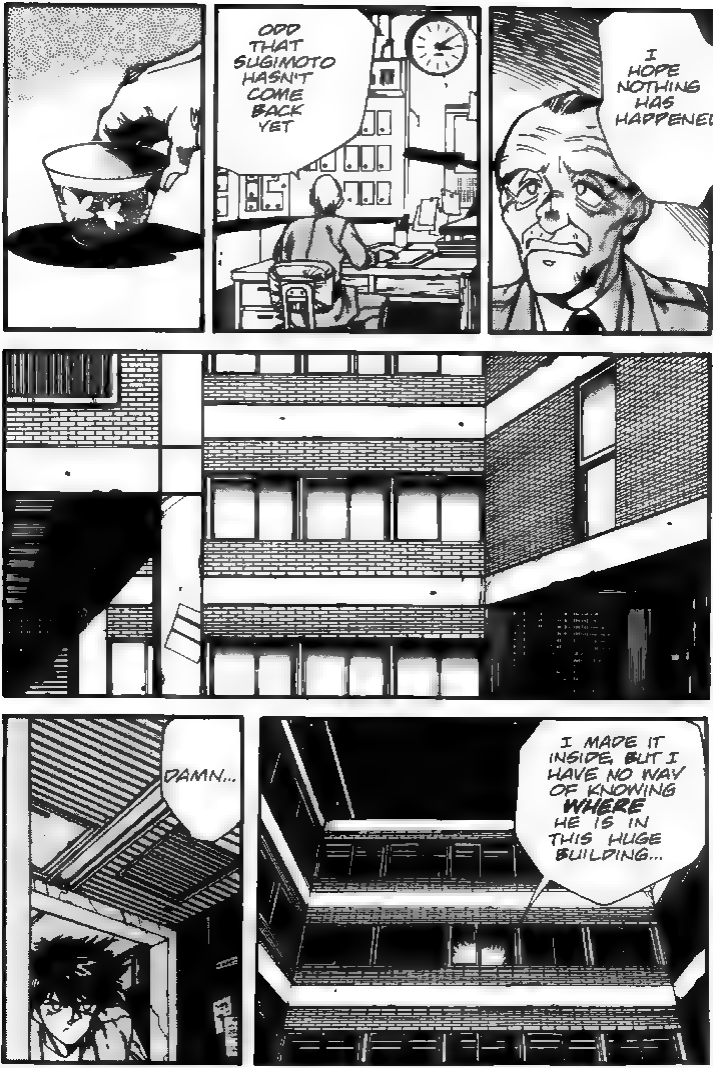
HIS RESEARCH ESCALATED, AND I BEGAN TO WORRY. I REPORTED HIM TO THE UNIVERSITY..
..THEY WARNED HIM—TOLD HIM TO STOP—BUT HE REFUSED.
"FINALLY, HE WAS EXPELLED. BITTER TO THE END."
BUT I, THE MAN OF PRINCIPLE WHO MADE HIM LEAVE... LOOK AT WHAT I'VE BECOME...
...PLEASE, ASUKA. IF ICHIMURA IS INVOLVED WITH THE BLOODY SEA, I CAN'T LET IT PASS.
INVESTIGATE FOR ME! FIND OUT WHAT NEW HORRORS HE'S CREATING!

PLEASE, ASUKA!
NOW, WHERE ARE YOU HIDING, MR ICHIMURA?


YOU'RE TAKING AWAY MY WHOLE LIFE!
NO THAT'S NOT TRUE..

MY LABORATORY... MY RESEARCH... EVEN MICHIYO MY WHOLE LIFE!
YOU MISUNDERSTOOD ME, ICHIMURA...
...TOTALLY MISUNDERSTOOD ME...
SIZZ
...I SHOULD FIND HIM MYSELF.

I'M GOING OUT, RYUJI.
WAIT! GRAMPS, DO YOU KNOW WHERE RISA IS? SONOKO SAYS SHE CAN'T FIND HER..
NO, I'M SORRY- I DON'T..
..I WANT TO CHECK ON ASUKA.
OKAY CALL US IF SOMETHING HAPPENS- WE'LL FLY OVER THERE!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT US! PRACTICE USING THOSE PROTECTORS!
YOU MUST GET USED TO THEM!
GOT THAT?
SCARY.


ODD THAT SUGIMOTO HASN'T COME BACK YET
I HOPE NOTHING HAS HAPPENED...
DAMN...
I MADE IT INSIDE, BUT I HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHERE HE IS IN THIS HUGE BUILDING...

..YOKO'S DISK SAYS HE'S ON CAMPUS ALMOST ALL THE TIME...
..MAYBE HE'S GONE ON VACATION OR SOMETHING
..WHAT?! THE W-WALL, IT'S--
SQUEE!
SQUEE!
WHO ARE YOU!?

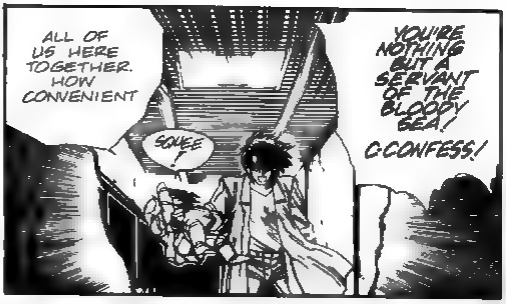
EEEEEEEAH!
AAGH!
WHOOM!

SLAMASH!
JING!
UGH!
EEEEH!
WHOOO
MY GOD! SUGIMOTO!
FWOOOO
OOMP!

G-GET OUT OF HERE, OLD MAN! QUICK!
YEAGH!
GRAH!
WHOOSH
D-DAMN!
uh... uh...

hhaah
hhaah
hhaah
WH-WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?
AH, XENON! I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU ON CAMERA! I HADN'T EXPECTED THE MOUNTAIN TO COME TO MOHAMMED!
I AM ICHIMURA!

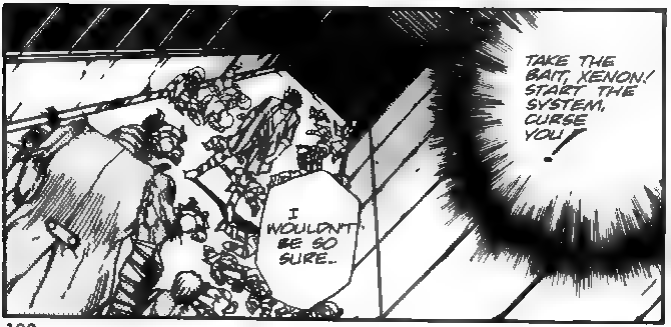
Heh heh


ALL OF US HERE TOGETHER. HOW CONVENIENT
SQUEE
YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A SERVANT OF THE BLOODY SEA! CONFESS!

KA-THOOM
KA-THOOM

NOW, XENON, YOU DON'T WANT TO FIGHT MY SOLDIERS WITHOUT YOUR HELMET, DO YOU?

SOLDIERS? THEY'RE SMALL FISH, ALREADY BEATEN


TAKE THE BAIT, XENON! START THE SYSTEM, CURSE YOU!
I WOULDN'T BE SO SURE..

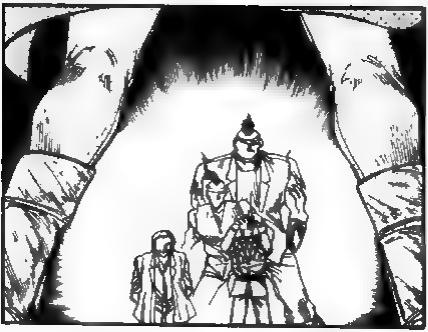
MY SOLDIERS WILL TEAR OFF YOUR LIMBS-- ONE BY ONE!
WAIT, ASUKA!
B-BUT, YOU ARE...!
...HYOEMON NITTA!

YES, IT'S ME
HOW IRONIC THAT WE MUST CROSS SWORDS ONE LAST TIME
Heh, heh, heh.
SO THE RUMOURS ARE TRUE! YOU ARE A REBEL!
WAS THE SIN OF CREATING XENON TOO MUCH FOR YOUR CONSCIENCE?
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED, ICHIMURA
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED ONE BIT!
NO, I HAVEN'T NOW--LET'S FINISH OUR STRANGE RELATIONSHIP, SHALL WE?
START THE XENON SYSTEM IMMEDIATELY, OR THIS OLD MAN'S HEAD WILL PAY THE PRICE!
EEEEAH!
HHELP ME..

..B-BUT.. IT'S MY GRANDSON'S BIRTHDAY TOMORROW!
HELP ME!

MAKE HIM STOP ICHIMURA!
Y-YOU B-BASTARD!

I C-CAN'T...
...I CAN'T STAND FOR THIS!



UHM... ASUKA? GRAMPS?

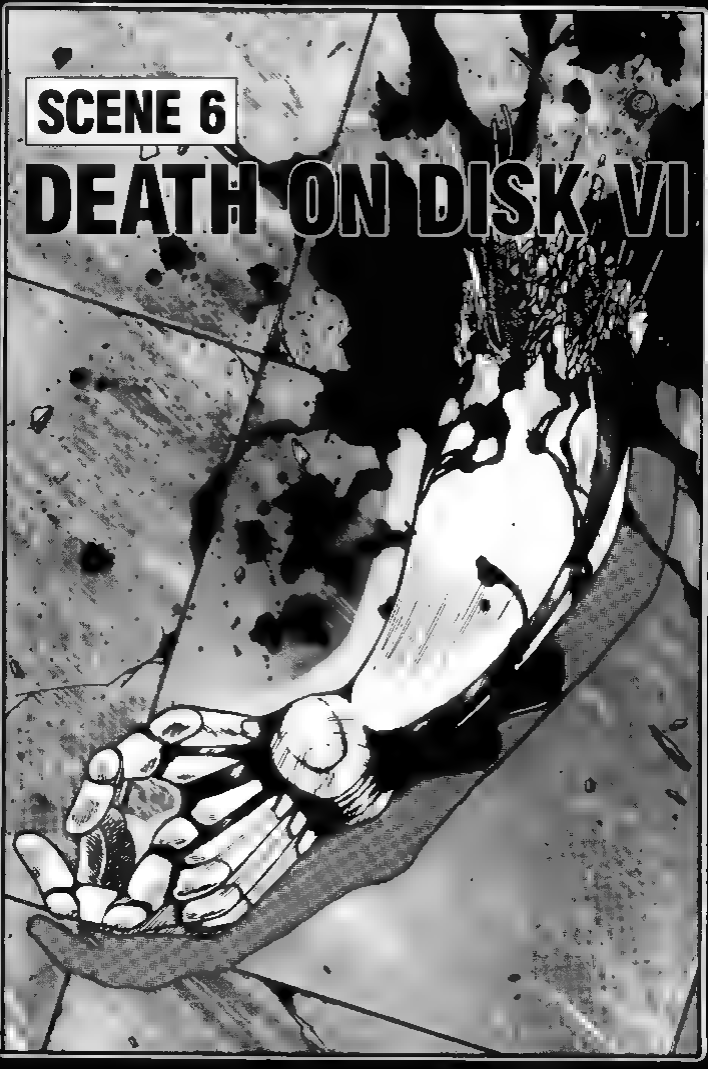
Heh.

RISA?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE ?!
ARE YOU CRAZY, RISA ?!
NNO! I JUST--
SNP
DOLTS
BLOOD
HELP M--

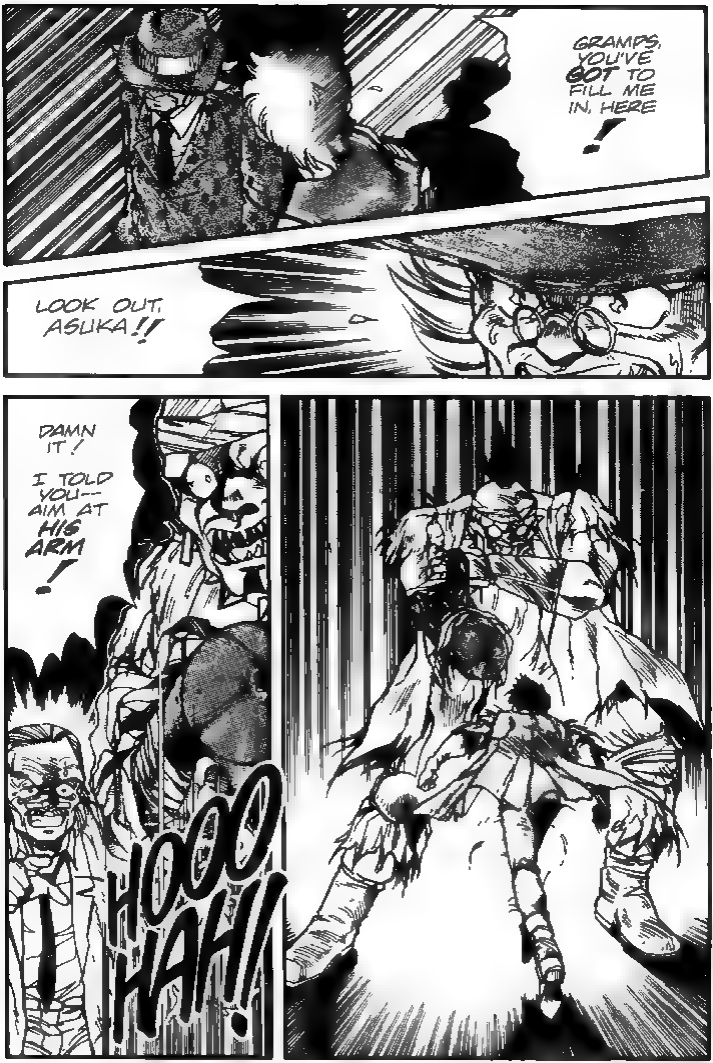
!!
EEEE
YOU--
--YOU SLIMY BASTARDS!
GRRR

HIS ARM!
AIM AT HIS ARM!
UH- ASUKA ?
SHAAA

MOOD


SCENE 6
DEATH ON DISK VI

WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ASUKA'S BODY ?!
AAAAAAAH!!


GRAMPS, YOU'VE GOT TO FILL ME IN, HERE!
LOOK OUT, ASUKA!!
DAMN IT!
I TOLD YOU-- AIM AT HIS ARM!
HOOO HAH!!

Hoom!
kat-ink
trik
krsh

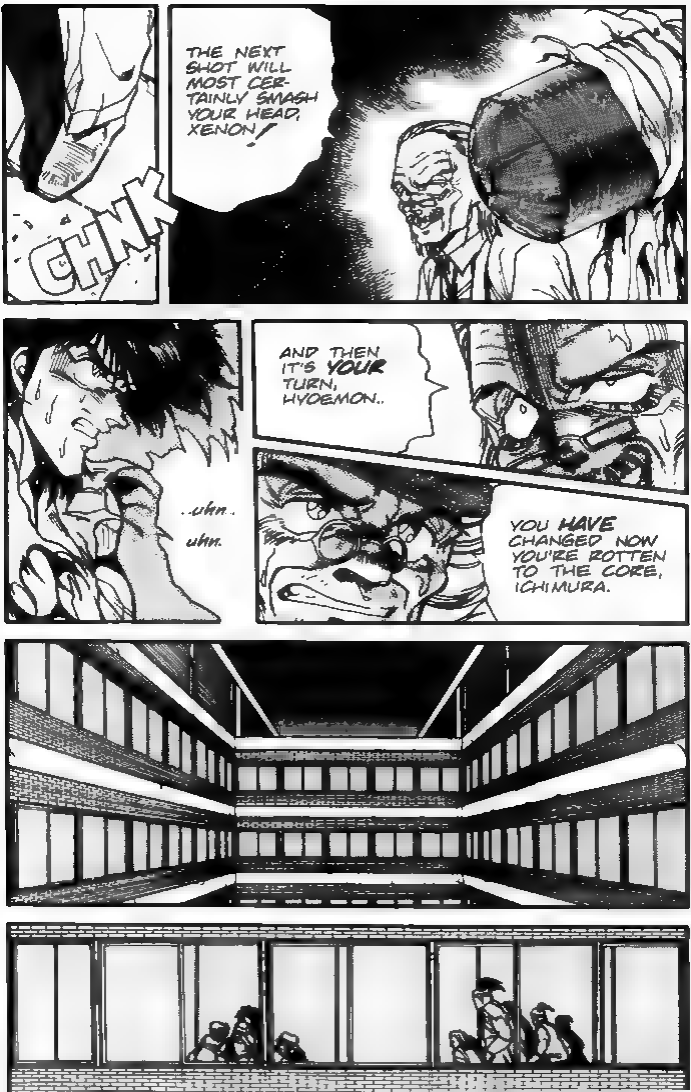
oh.
oh no.
WHUD

UNGH...
ASUKA!
AAAAAAG

GGGGGHHH!!

WHUMP
SPLAT
SPLASH
G-GOD DAMN YOU!
YOU MUST CONTROL YOURSELF, ASUKA THE XENON SYSTEM WILL AUTOMATICALLY SHUT THE WOUNDED AREA DOWN TRY TO STAY CALM!
B-BUT MY ARM! IT-IT'S GONE! G-GONE!
BLOOP
uhm..

Heh, heh, heh!
SO WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THAT, HYOEMON?
Hmm?
FORTY YEARS, AND NOW I HAVE THE ABILITY TO BEST YOU!
Gah! Ho! Ho!
WH-WHAT'S GOING ON? IT'S LIKE A CARTOON- ASUKA TURNED INTO A ROBOT AND LOST HIS ARM...
DO YOU WANT TO MAKE ME COMPLETELY FLAKE OUT?!!
SH-SHUT UP ALREADY, RISA!


CHNK
THE NEXT SHOT WILL MOST CERTAINLY SMASH YOUR HEAD, XENON!
..uhm..
uhm.
AND THEN IT'S YOUR TURN, HYOEMON..
YOU HAVE CHANGED NOW YOU'RE ROTTEN TO THE CORE, ICHIMURA.

IF I WERE ALONE, I COULD DEAL WITH THESE FREAKS SOMEHOW. BUT I HAVE TO PROTECT RISA AND GRAMPS, TOO. WHAT CAN I DO?
Hwa_an
I WON'T DIE FOR NOTHING!
I WON'T!

KRASH
fsskt
WUP

WHO-
WHAT--
?!
TaKa
TaKa
TaKa
TaKaTaKa
CHK
SPAAK
SPAAANG
VIP
VIP
SPAAT
EEEEEEH!
KLIK

Y-YOKO.. WHY DID YOU COME HERE?!
WE'LL TALK LATER! HERE'S YOUR HELMET! CATCH!
THUNK
!
WHAT HAPPENED? WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?!
JUST G-GET GRAMPS AND RISA OUT OF HERE- NOW!
BUT..
HURRY! GET GOING!
ASUKA!

GRRR
NOW GO!
TUMP
OW!
GOT IT!
SHA-thump
GIVE ME YOUR GUN, YOKO!

ASUKA!
GET OUT OF HERE!
ALL RIGHT!
GYAAAH!

CHOOM
CHOOM
WHOOSH
BA-BA-BA-BA-BA
DIRTY FREAKS!
SHAA
GAH! HO! HO! HO!
VIP VIP VIP VIP

SHROOOM
!
RYUJI?!

OH, RYUJI! I DIDN'T MEAN TO GET INVOLVED IN THIS-- THIS WEIRDNESS! BUT SONOKO JUST HAD TO KNOW WHAT ASUKA WAS UP TO!
GIRLS. WE SHOULDA KNOWN.
WAAAH!
RYUJI, I TOLD YOU TO STAY HOME AND PRACTICE USING THE PROTECTORS!
BUSTED!
I THOUGHT ACTUAL COMBAT MIGHT BE A GOOD TRAINING EXERCISE!
HURRY, RYUJI! ASUKA'S BEEN INJURED!
YEAH.. HIS ARM JUST WENT KABLOOSH!
WHAT?!

XENON, THIS TIME YOUR LIFE IS MINE!
Ka-kaaah
S-SO NOW YOUR CRITTERS ARE ARMOURED, HUH?
ASUKA, DON'T MOVE!
BUHLAM!

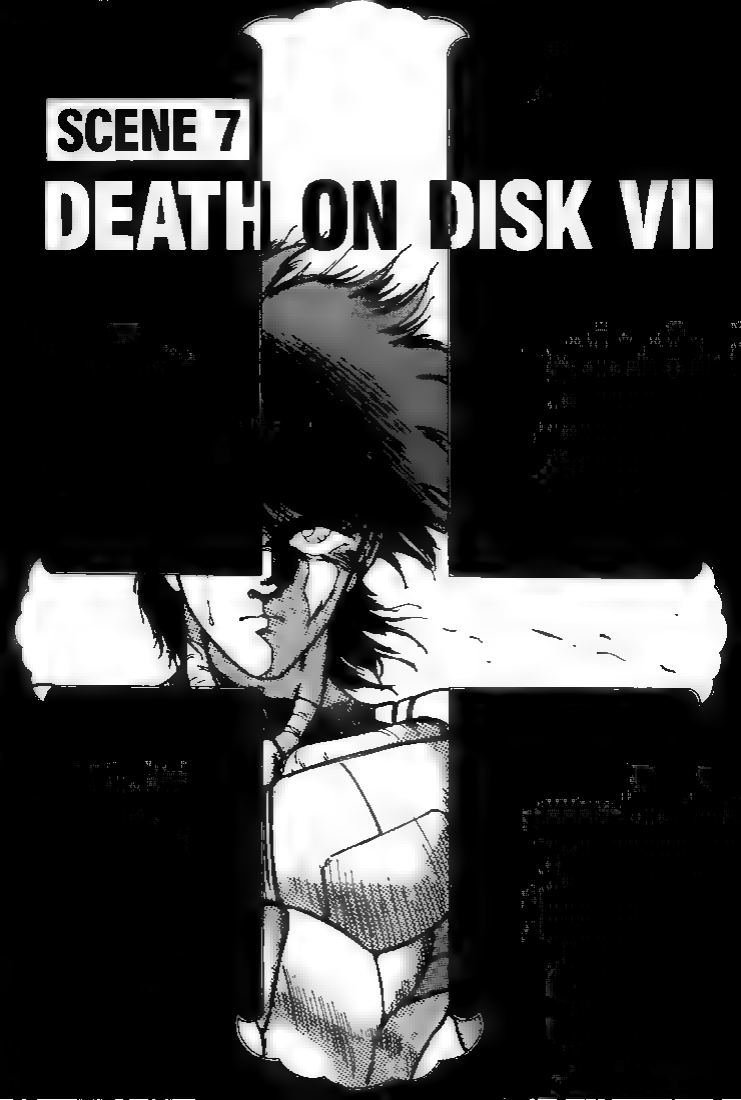
WHAM
BOOM
KRASH
BUHLAM!
BUHLAM!

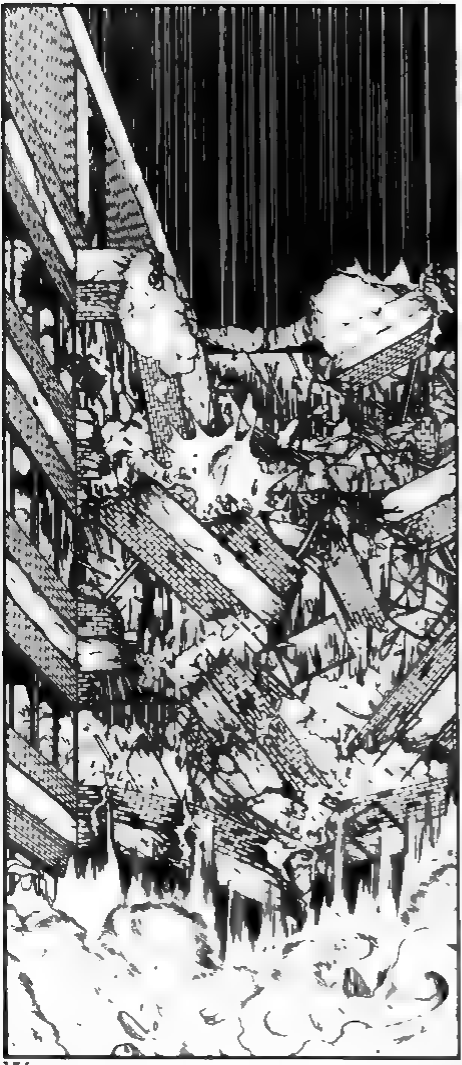
CRINK!
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
RYUJI! YOU CAME TOO!
GAAHRR!
KABOOM!

OKAY, YOKO! LET'S GO!
OKAY!
BUT, RYUJI! YOU CAN'T JUST LEAVE ME AND GRAMPS BEHIND!
WAIT!
%!&*!
SEE IF I CRY WHEN YOU'RE DEAD, RYUJI!!

SCENE 7

DEATH ON DISK VII





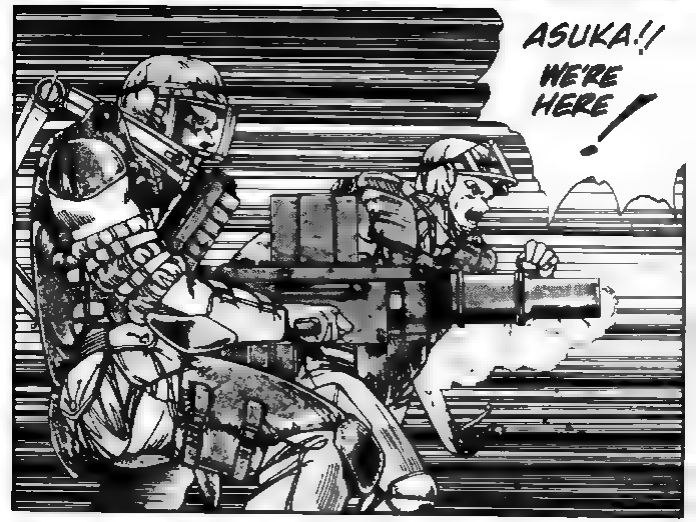
GAH!
SHAA
PUM
PUM
PUM
WHA?!
PUM
HOW CAN HE MOVE SO FAST?
GAH! HO! HO! HO!
GHOOM
NO!
WHOOM!

GRAAAH!
THUNK
BOOM!
UROH!
Heh, heh, heh, heh!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO, XENON?!
SPEED AND POWER!
THAT'S WHAT I HAVE PITTED AGAINST YOU! THESE ARE NOT JUST MEN IN DEMON SUITS!
HO! HO!
AAAAH!

WUMP
!
mega
UP
DANGER
mega
mega
OVER MY HEAD !
NOOOOO!
KARASH!

WOOSH!
Urgh!
GRRRR
DAMN!
AAAAAH!
WHOMP!
SLAM!!

HOOHAH!
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
I-I CAN'T DEFEND MYSELF WITH ONLY ONE ARM!
ZZZZRRR
HO?
WHAM
WH-WHAT?!


ASUKA!!
WE'RE HERE!

Gah!?

Ho! Ho!
Ho! Ho!
DANCING

LEAVE THE FREAK TO US, ASUKA!
RUN AWAY!

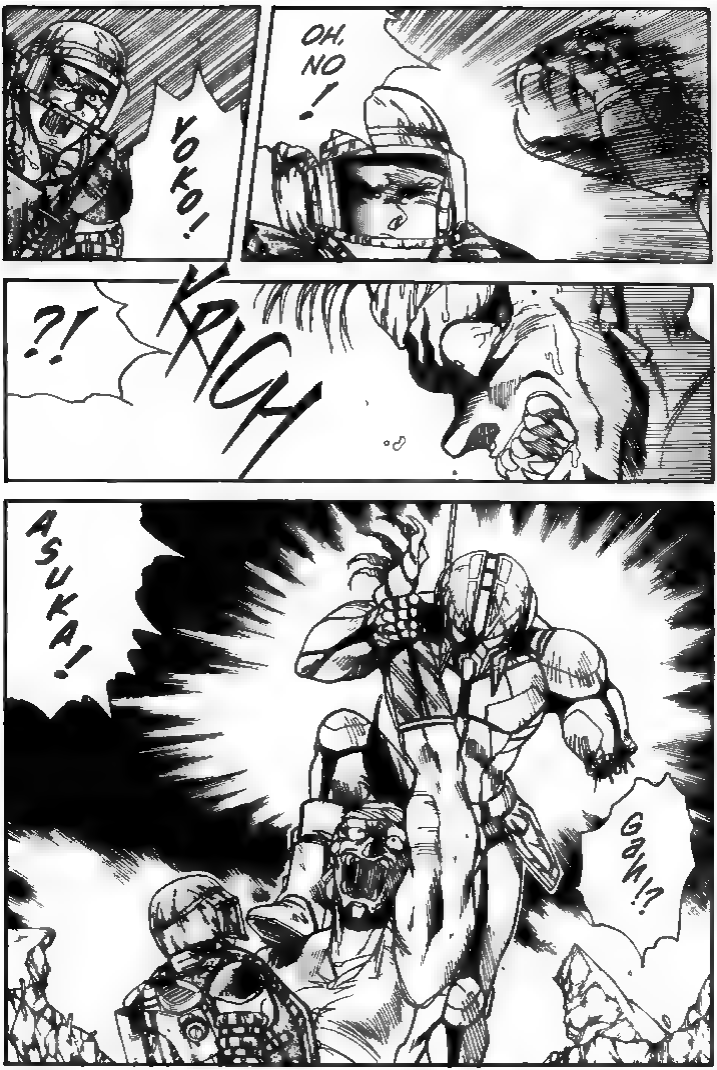
I CAN'T RUN AWAY NOW! THOSE--THOSE BASTARDS DESTROYED MY ARM!
OKAY! BUT LEAVE THE BOUNCY ONE TO ME!
I'LL SHOW HIM WHO'S FAST!
WHATEVER YOU SAY, YOKO!

GYA
AH!!
B-BASTARD!
YOU'RE H-HISTORY, DUMBHEAD!
GRRRR
GHA!
ORAAAH!!

KAKA'S

WHSSSH
Gah ?
GRRRR
NOW I'VE GOT YOU WHERE I WANT YOU!
WHOOSH
!!
GAAH
MONSTER!

I'VE GOT HIM, RYUJI! NOW SHOOT HIM!
WHA...?
I'LL BE FINE, RYUJI! I'LL ESCAPE THE MOMENT YOU SHOOT!
BUT WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO YOU YOKO?
BUT IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!
HURRY UP!
GRRRRRR
EEEEEEE!


YOKO!
OH, NO!
?!
KRICH
ASUKA!
GOH!?

HOW MANY DEATHS WILL IT TAKE TO SATISFY YOU?
IT'S T-TIME YOU LEARNED WHAT IT FEELS LIKE!
KICH KICH
Hnn?
AARGH!
KRICH
KRICH
KRICH
KRICH
UH. ASUKA.

WHOP WHOP WHOP WHOP
EEEEEE!

WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
SICK
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
!
IT CAN'T BE!

TONO!
TONO! WHY ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME?! WHO ARE YOU REALLY?
YOU WONT GET AWAY THIS TIME!
SNEEOOW
ASUKA!
heh...

I HAVE BEEN WITH YOU SINCE YOU WERE BORN, AND I WILL BE WITH YOU UNTIL YOU DIE
...I AM YOUR KARMA, ASUKA!
THERE IS NO ESCAPE, NO MATTER HOW HARD YOU TRY.
...ABANDON YOUR HUMANITY AND FOLLOW ME!
I WASN'T B-BORN THIS WAY..
...AND I WONT GIVE UP MY HUMANITY!
THEN STRUGGLE A WHILE LONGER, SILLY BOY! SUFFER!

GRR
LOOK OUT, ASUKA!
SKR NNNNN
GGOOM
THOUGH YOU CAN NEVER REACH MY LEVEL, YOU'LL COME TO SEE IT MY WAY SOON ENOUGH
KSH!
O-OAMN!

I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU ARE, T-TONO!
I CAN FIGHT MY KARMA-- AND I CAN WIN!
I AM A HUMAN BEING!
I AM ASUKA KANO!
WOOOO WOOOO

Woo Woo Woo
Woo Woo
RRRRMMMM

HUH?!
...RISA...
LEAVE ME ALONE, XENON! YOU SCARE ME!
RISA! HOW COULD YOU!

PLEASE...
...PUH-PLEASE DON'T...
...D-DON'T TELL... S-SONOKO WHAT H-HAPPENED...
MY LIFE SEEMED LIKE A STUPID HORROR MOVIE...
...BUT I STILL FELT SORRY THAT MY DUMB MOUTHING OFF HAD HURT ASUKA'S FEELINGS...

TO BE CONTINUED..